



Don't Worry, You Still Get Chocolate

Read: Acts 10:34, 37-43 & John 20: 1 – 18

I once asked my niece what Easter was all about. According to her, “Easter is when the Easter Bunny rose Jesus from the dead”. As cute as her response was, the questions remains, “what is Easter about?” Today’s readings give us a clue.

1. Easter reminds us of God’s unconditional and personal love for everyone, and his desire that we attain the fullness of life in communion with himself (John 3:16).
2. Easter is God’s solution to the problem of sin, which has separated us from God, introduced evil into the world, and left the human race in a desperate condition, ultimately leading to eternal death. That is why God sent his Son Jesus to reveal the Father’s love, to forgive our sins and reconcile us with Himself though his death and resurrection.
3. Easter reminds us that we have a part to play. We must receive the gift of God by repenting of our sin, and believing in Jesus (Acts 10:43). Then we must “seek the things that are above” (Colossians 3:1), by being filled with the Holy Spirit and being actively involved in a faith community.
4. Easter prepares us for Jesus’ coming in glory as judge, for “He is the one appointed by God to judge the living and the dead” (Acts 10:42). This will occur at the end of time when the dead will be raised and all will receive their just reward for their deeds and their acceptance or refusal of God’s grace, either to eternal life or eternal separation from God.

So what is Easter about? In an eggshell: It’s about the glorious conclusion of God’s plan to save us from sin and offer us eternal life. Our job is recognizing this gift, ask for forgiveness, accept God’s mercy, be filled with His Holy Spirit, and THEN celebrate by eating some Easter chocolate.